



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ACQUISITION
1000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

7 April 95

MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMAND STANDARDS IMPROVEMENT EXECUTIVES

Subj : IMPLEMENTATION MEMO 95-3, TIERING OF SPECIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS

Ref: (a) SecDef memo of 29 June 94 on Specifications and Standards - A New Way of Doing Business
(b) ASN (RD&A) memo of 27 July 94 on Navy Implementation of DoD Policy on Specifications and Standards Reform
(c) DoN Standards Improvement Program Plan, dated 21 Dec 94
(d) Defence Standards Improvement Council meeting of 1,2 Dec 94

Encl: (1) Solicitation and Contract Language for Tiering of Specifications and Standards

Reference (a) states that during production, those system specifications, subsystem specifications, and equipment/product specifications (through and including the first-tier references in the equipment/product specifications) cited in the contract shall be mandatory for use.

References (b) and (c) are modified by this memorandum to require that all solicitations and resultant contracts, including those for ACAT programs, non-ACAT programs, or programs in production that cite military specifications and standards, and Federal specifications and standards, as requirements, shall have language in Section C which identifies that zero-tier and first-tier references shall be mandatory for use, and that lower tier references shall be used for guidance only. Specifications and standards listed on engineering drawings are to be considered as first-tier references. Enclosure (1) provides recommended language for use in these solicitations and resultant contracts as it applies.

During reference (d), it was decided that all tiers of reference in non-Government standards that are cited in contracts are contractually binding, including military specifications and standards that are lower-tier references in the cited non-Government standards. Therefore, the preceding tiering requirements do not apply to solicitations and resultant contracts where only non-Government standards are cited. For reprocurments of repair or replacement parts or of commodity items, conformance with these tiering requirements is encouraged but not mandatory.

Approval of requests for departure from these tiering requirements, when necessary, will be made by the DoN Standards Improvement Executive.

The Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion, will determine implementation of the tiering requirements for specifications and drawings used in nuclear propulsion plants pursuant to Public Law 98-525 (42 USC Section 7158 note) .

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. E. Porter', with a stylized flourish at the end.

D. E. PORTER
DoN Standards Improvement Executive
Acquisition Reform Office

Solicitation and Contract Language for
Tiering of Specifications and Standards

The following language applies to and is recommended to be included in Section C of solicitations and resultant contracts.

Specifications and Standards

1. Definitions

a. "Zero-tier references are the Statement of Work, the system specifications, the subsystem specifications, equipment/product specifications, and purchase descriptions listed in this subparagraph, and/or the drawings listed in this subparagraph:

- (1) MIL-SPEC _____
- (2) Drawing _____

b. "First-tier references" are those specifications and standards cited in zero-tier references (unless identified in the zero-tier reference as being provided for guidance only), and are listed in this subparagraph:

- (1) MIL-SPEC _____
- (2) MIL-STD _____
- (3) Federal Spec _____
- (4) Federal Std _____

c. "Lower-tier references" are those which are contained in the first-tier references and which add additional requirements and references.

2. Requirements

a. All zero-tier and first-tier references, as listed above, are mandatory for use. All lower-tier references shall be used for guidance only.

b. All tiers of reference in non-Government standards which are cited in this contract are mandatory for use. This applies to military specifications and standards that are lower-tier references in the cited non-Government standards.